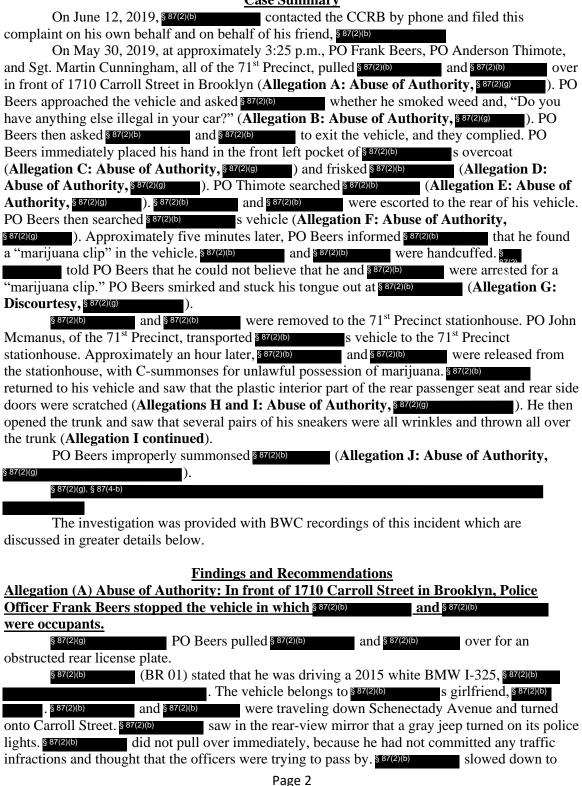
## CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

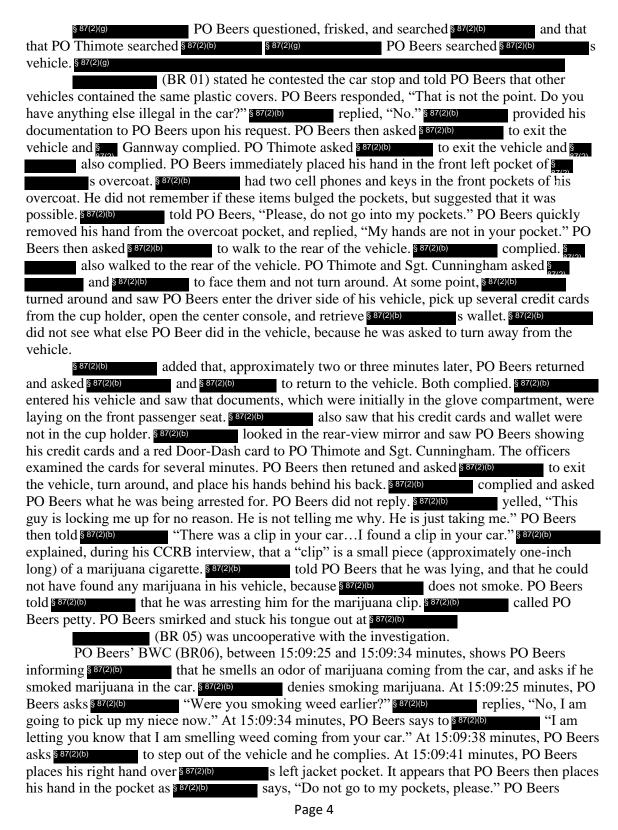
Investigator:		Team:	CCRB Case #:	□ F	orce	<u> </u>	Discourt.	☐ U.S.
Olga Bentin		Squad #4	201905095	□ ·  ☑ A		_	O.L.	☐ Injury
Olga Belluli		Squau #4	201903093		louse	ш	O.L.	
Incident Date(s)		Location of Incident:		Pre	ecinct:	18 N	Mo. SOL	EO SOL
Thursday, 05/30/2019 3:25 PM		in front of 1710 Carroll Precinct stationhouse	Street; 71st		71	11/	30/2020	7/17/2021
Date/Time CV Reported		CV Reported At:	How CV Reported:	: D	ate/Time	Recei	ved at CCI	RB
Wed, 06/12/2019 2:44 PM		CCRB	Phone	W	/ed, 06/12	2/2019	2:44 PM	[
Complainant/Victim	Туре	Home Addre	ess					
§ 87(2)(b)	§ 87(2)(b)	§ 87(2)(b)						
§ 87(2)(b)	§ 87(2)(b)	§ 87(2)(b)						
Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command					
1. POM Frank Beers	17641	945498	071 PCT					
2. An officer			071 PCT					
3. POM John Mcmanus	15975	949309	071 PCT					
4. POM Anderson Thimote	16504	957399	071 PCT					
Witness Officer(s)	Shield N	o Tax No	Cmd Name					
1. SGT Martin Cunningham	02100	946888	071 PCT					
2. POM Mario Bueno	11861	960290	071 PCT					
Officer(s)	Allegatio	on			Inve	stigat	tor Recon	nmendation
A.POM Frank Beers		n front of 1710 Carroll S rank Beers stopped the and \$87(2)(b)			§ 87(2)(	(g)		
B.POM Frank Beers		n front of 1710 Carroll S rank Beers questioned	treet in Brooklyn, P	Police	§ 87(2)(	(g)		
C.POM Frank Beers		n front of 1710 Carroll S rank Beers searched § 870		Police	§ 87(2)			
D.POM Frank Beers		n front of 1710 Carroll S rank Beers frisked § 87(2)		Police	§ 87(2)			
E.POM Anderson Thimote		n front of 1710 Carroll S Anderson Thimote search		olice	§ 87(2)			
F.POM Frank Beers		n front of 1710 Carroll S rank Beers searched the and <sup>§ 87(2)(b)</sup>			§ 87(2)(	(g)		
G.POM Frank Beers		esy: In front of 1710 Car fficer Frank Beers acted			§ 87(2)			
H. An officer	the vehic	t the 71st Precinct static le in which § 87(2)(b)	was an occupa	nt.				
I. An officer	Abuse: A § 87(2)(b)	s property.	onhouse, an officer of	lamag				
J.POM Frank Beers	Abuse: P § 87(2)(b)	olice Officer Frank Bee	rs issued a summons	s to	§ 87(2)(	(g)		

Officer(s)	Allegation	Investigator Recommendation
§ 87(4-b), § 87(2)(g)		§ 87(2)(g), § 87(4-b)

## **Case Summary**



allow the jeep to pass, but the jeep also slowed down and pulled over behind his vehicle. PO
Beers, PO Thimote, and Sgt. Cunningham exited the jeep and approached \$87(2)(b)
vehicle. PO Beers approached the front driver side. §87(2)(b) asked PO Beers why he was
pulled over. PO Beers informed \$87(2)(b) that he had a plastic cover frame around his rear
license plate and that the frame covered the license plate. § 87(2)(b) acknowledged that there
was a black plastic cover frame around the rear license plate of his vehicle during the incident and
that it partially covered the top and bottom parts of the license plate.
§87(2)(b) (BR 05) was uncooperative with the investigation.
PO Beers' BWC (BR 06) begins with PO Beers, PO Anderson, and Sgt. Cunningham
stopping \$87(2)(b) stopping \$87(
the front driver side of the vehicle and asks \$87(2)(b) for his driver's license and registration.
asks PO Beers why he was pulled over. PO Beers replies, "Because you have a
plate cover on your car that you are not supposed to have."
A still image (BR 07) taken from Sgt. Cunningham's BWC captures the black cover
frame partially covering the top and the bottom of \$87(2)(b) s rear license plate.
PO Beers (BR 08) testified that he, PO Thimote, and Sgt. Cunningham were traveling
east-bound on Carroll Street when PO Beers observed \$87(2)(b) s vehicle with a plastic
cover frame that obstructed the rear license plate. PO Beers explained that, according to NYS
Traffic Laws, the rear and the front license plates must be visible at all times, and nothing can
obstruct them. PO Beers decided to stop the vehicle to inquire about the observed VTL infraction.
PO Beers did not remember if he discussed his observation with his partners. PO Beers signaled a
car stop and \$87(2)(6) pulled over. PO Beers ultimately used his discretion and did not
summons same for the obstructed rear license plate, but warned and admonished him.
Under NY CLS Veh & Tr § 402 (1) (b) (BR 09), the number plates shall be kept clean
and in a condition so as to be easily readable and shall not be covered by glass or any plastic
material. The courts have held that the decision to stop an automobile is reasonable where the
officers have probable cause to believe that a traffic violation has occurred, regardless of their
intention. People v. Robinson, 97 N.Y. 2d 341 (2001) (BR 23)
§ 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(g)
Allegation (B) Abuse of Authority: In front of 1710 Carroll Street in Brooklyn, Police
Officer Frank Beers questioned § 87(2)(b)
Allegation (C) Abuse of Authority: In front of 1710 Carroll Street in Brooklyn, Police
Officer Frank Beers searched § 87(2)(b)
Allegation (D) Abuse of Authority: In front of 1710 Carroll Street in Brooklyn, Police
Officer Frank Beers frisked \$87(2)(b)
Allegation (E) Abuse of Authority: In front of 1710 Carroll Street in Brooklyn, Police
Officer Anderson Thimote searched \$ 87(2)(b)
Allegation (F) Abuse of Authority: In front of 1710 Carroll Street in Brooklyn, Police
Officer Frank Beers searched the vehicle in which \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b)
were occupants. Allegation (G) Discourtesy: In front of 1710 Carroll Street in Brooklyn, Police Officer
Frank Beers acted discourteously toward §87(2)(b)
Daga 2



replies, "I am not going to go to your pockets, alright?" It is unclear if PO Beers reaches into
s pocket. §87(2)(b) then walks to the rear of the vehicle. At 15:10:07 minutes, PO
Beers enters \$87(2)(b) s vehicle from the front driver side and proceeds to search. PO Beers
checks underneath the front driver seat, inside the cup holder, and opens the center console and
checks inside. PO Beers takes a red credit card from the center console. PO Beers then checks the
side door pocket. At 15:11:32 minutes, PO Beers exits the vehicle and walks over to the front
passenger side. PO Beers re-enters the vehicle and checks the side pocket of the door and under
the front passenger seat. PO Beers then reaches from the front to the rear passenger seats and
checks several carton boxes. PO Beers opens the center console again and shovels through
papers. At 15:13:32 minutes, PO Beers concludes the vehicle search and walks to the rear of the
vehicle. PO Beers asks §87(2)(b) and §87(2)(b) to return to the vehicle. At 15:14:07
minutes, PO Beers shows the red credit card to his partners, and they examine the card. At
15:17:17 minutes, PO Beers returns to \$87(2)(b) s car and asks for his documents. S provides the documents. PO Beers then asks \$87(2)(b) to exit the vehicle, turn
around, and place his hands behind his back. § 87(2)(b) complies and asks PO Beers where
he is taking him. PO Beers tells [897(2)(5)] that he is taking him to the 71st Precinct
stationhouse. §87(2)(b) asks PO Beers what he is arrested for. As PO Beers walks
to the police vehicle, he says, "Like you said, you do not smoke weed, and there is
weed in the car." \$87(2)(b) denies having marijuana in the vehicle.
PO Thimote's BWC (BR 10) captures the same incident with the following additional
information. At 15:09:48 minutes, PO Thimote asks §87(2)(b) to exit the vehicle, and he
complies. At 15:09:53 minutes, PO Thimote searches \$87(2)(b) pants pockets. At 15:10:24
minutes, Sgt. Cunningham tells \$87(2)(b) that his car smells like weed. \$87(2)(b) denies
this. §87(2)(b) who is now at the rear, intervenes and says, "We were smoking in the crib,
bro. That's it." §87(2)(b) then says to PO Thimote, "We were smoking in the crib and he just
picked me up."
None of the BWC recordings capture PO Beers acting discourteously in the manner
alleged by \$87(2)(b)
§ 87(2)(g)
PO Beers stated that the driver side window
of \$87(2)(b) s vehicle was rolled down and that he smelled a strong odor of burnt marijuana
emanating from the vehicle as he approached. PO Beers asked \$87(2)(b) if he smoked
marijuana in the vehicle, but did not remember \$87(2)(b) s response. PO Beers denied
specifically asking \$87(2)(b) if he had anything illegal in the vehicle. PO Beers then asked
to exit the vehicle, and he complied. PO Thimote asked \$87(2)(b) to exit the
vehicle, and he also complied. When § 87(2)(b) exited the vehicle, PO Beers saw that his
front jacket pockets were bulging. He could not describe the shape or size of the bulge. PO Beers
frisked \$87(2)(b) s front jacket pockets for safety reasons. \$87(2)(b) said something to
the effect of, "Please, do not go into my pocket." PO Beers told \$87(2)(b) that he was not
going to reach into his pockets. PO Beers did not recall placing his hand into \$87(2)(b)
pockets or searching him. PO Beers acknowledged frisking \$87(2)(b) s waistband area. PO
Beers did not know if PO Thimote searched \$87(2)(b)
PO Beers then entered and searched the interior of §87(2)(b) s vehicle. PO Beers first
entered through the front driver side and checked under the driver seat. He then opened the center
console, checked inside, and found three credit cards. One of the credit cards looked suspicious,

although PO Beers could not describe it beyond stating that its label and numbers appeared suspicious. PO Beers then walked over to the front passenger side, re-entered the vehicle, and looked under the front passenger seat. He then leaned to the rear and checked underneath the rear of the front driver and front passenger seats. PO Beers noticed a box on the rear passenger seat, and he opened it and looked inside. PO Been then checked the front passenger side door panel and found half of a burnt marijuana cigarette. PO Beers determined that it was a marijuana cigarette, based on his marijuana-related training and experience, which consists of over 300 arrests involving marijuana. PO Beers did not find any other marijuana in the vehicle. PO Beers took the credit cards and marijuana cigarette, returned to his partners, and asked and the marijuana cigarette to his partners. PO Beers decided to arrest for unlawful possession of marijuana. He also intended to check the credit cards, via a credit card reader, to confirm whether they were legal. [87(2)] and [87(2)] were handcuffed without incident. PO Beers denied sticking his tongue out at [87(2)] were handcuffed without incident. PO Beers denied sticking his tongue out at [87(2)] were brought to the 71st Precinct stationhouse and they were later released with summonses for unlawful possession of marijuana (BR 02 and BR 03).  Marijuana was vouchered in relation to this incident. The marijuana was field tested and the results returned positive (BR 11).  According to People v. Cuffie, 109 A.D. 3d 1200 (2013) (BR 12), "[it] is well established that 'the odor of marijuana maning from a vehicle, when detected by an officer qualified by training and experience to recognize it, is sufficient to constitute probable cause' to search a vehicle and its occupants. see People v Chestnut, 43 A.D. 2d 260 (1974) (BR 13)
Allegation (H): Abuse of Authority: At the 71 <sup>st</sup> Precinct stationhouse, an officer searched the vehicle in which was an occupant.  Allegation (I) Abuse of Authority: At the 71 <sup>st</sup> Precinct stationhouse, an officer damaged sproperty.
(BR 01) stated that after being released and picking up his vehicle from the stationhouse, he saw that the plastic interior part of the rear passenger seats and the side doors were scratched. There were no scratches before the incident. [887(2)(6)] then opened the trunk and saw that his sneakers were wrinkled and thrown all over the trunk. Before the incident, the sneakers were neatly placed on the left side of the trunk and there was a laundry bag to the right.  [887(2)(6)] did not witness the search or property damage. [887(2)(6)] believed that  Page 6

officers searched his vehicle after it was brought to the stationhouse and caused the above
damage to the interior and his sneakers. §87(2)(b) provided several photographs (BR 04) of
the alleged damage to the sneakers, which were taken on May 31, 2019, at 11:17 p.m.
took the vehicle to an auto shop immediately after being released and had the scratches
polished; therefore, he did not have any photographs of the damage done to the interior of the
vehicle.
was uncooperative with the investigation (BR 05).
PO Mcmanus' BWC recording (BR 20), between 15:19:51 and 15:27:00 minutes,
captures him driving §87(2)(b) s vehicle to the stationhouse. The video ends after PO
Mcmanus parks and exits § 87(2)(b) s vehicle.
PO Beers (BR 08) stated that \$87(2)(b) so which was transported to the stationhouse
for safekeeping, because he could not leave it unattended at the scene. PO Beers did not
remember which officer transported the vehicle. PO Beers did not know what happened to the
vehicle once it was brought to the stationhouse. PO Beers decided not to voucher \$87(2)(b)
vehicle, because vouchering property is a lengthy process, and he did not wish to keep
and \$87(2)(b) at the stationhouse longer than needed. PO Beers denied searching
s vehicle or its trunk at the stationhouse or damaging the vehicle's interior or any
s personal property, including sneakers. He was never informed of such search
being performed by any other officer.
§ 87(2)(g)
PO Mcmanus stated that he received a call from Sgt. Cunningham, who asked him to respond to
the incident location and transport a vehicle to the stationhouse. PO Mcmanus arrived at the
stationhouse and parked the vehicle at the rear parking lot. He then entered the stationhouse and
handed the car keys to PO Beers. PO Mcmanus denied searching § 87(2)(b) s vehicle or its
trunk at the stationhouse and he did not see any officer doing so. PO Mcmanus denied damaging
any interior part of \$87(2)(b) s vehicle or any of his personal property. PO Mcmanus did not
know why \$ 87(2)(6) s vehicle was not vouchered.
The 71 <sup>st</sup> Precinct Command Log (BR 22) notes that §87(2)(b) and §87(2)(b)
were brought to the stationhouse by PO Beers at 3:35 p.m. for unlawful possession of marijuana.
was released at 4:40 p.m., and \$87(2)(b) was released at 4:45 p.m. It is also
noted that, at 10:55 p.m., Sgt. Anthony Blum provided the Desk Sergeant with a property voucher
for marijuana pertaining to this incident. The Command Log does not document §87(2)(b)
vehicle being impounded, vouchered or searched.
§ 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(g)
Allegation (J) Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Frank Beers issued a summons to \$87(2)(6)
§ 87(2)(g) PO Beers issued summonses to both § 87(2)(b) and § 87(2)(b)
for unlawful possession of marijuana.
for unitawful possession of marijuana.

§ 87(2)(g)
was uncooperative with the investigation (BR 05).  Based on PO Thimote's BWC (BR 10), which is discussed above, §87(2)(b)
acknowledged that he smoked marijuana in his friend's house shortly before \$87(2)(b)
picked him up.
C-summons (BR 03), issued by PO Beers, documents the following in the
factual allegation section, "At t/p/o, undersigned observed the defendant inside above vehicle in
possession of a marijuana cigarette FTP. Voucher #\$87(2)(b) ."
The same narrative is listed in the factual allegation section of §87(2)(b) s C-
summons (BR 02).
"Possession" means to have physical possession or otherwise to exercise dominion or
control over tangible property. NY CLS Penal § 10.00 (BR 27) According to NY CLS Penal §
220.25(1) (BR 24), the presence of a controlled substance in an automobile, other than a public omnibus, is presumptive evidence of knowing possession thereof by each and every person in the substance of the control
nutomobile at the time such controlled substance was found. Under NY CLS Penal § 220.00 (5)
(BR 25), "controlled substance" means any substance listed in schedule I, II, III, IV or V of
section thirty-three hundred six of the public health law other than marihuana, but including
concentrated cannabis as defined in paragraph (a) of subdivision four of section thirty-three
nundred two of such law. Also see, People v. Dan, 55 A.D.3d 1042 (3 Dept. 2008) (BR 26).
§ 87(2)(b), § 87(2)(g)
87(4-b), § 87(2)(g)

## **Civilian and Officer CCRB Histories**

has been party to two CCRB complaints and has been named a victim in 11 allegations (BR 14):

Page 8

<b>■</b> i	§ 87(2)(b)		
<ul> <li>PO Fran</li> </ul>		has been a r-of-service for 11 years and has been a legations, none of which were substa	
		member-of-service for four years and and 10 allegations, none of which we	
PO Mcn	search, § 87(2)(9) nanus has been a member-o	tions of abuse of authority (vehicle s), which is pending investigation of-service for nine years and has been ons, none of which were substantiated	n a subject in five
<ul> <li>A FOIL Claim fi</li> </ul>	nplaint was not suitable for request was sent to the NY	Civil and Criminal Histories r mediation. C Comptroller on July 26, 2019, for nt. The results of the request will be	
● § 87(2)(b)			
Squad No.:	4		
Investigator: _	Signature	Print Title & Name	Date
Squad Leader: _	Signature	Print Title & Name	Date

Reviewer:			
	Signature	Print Title & Name	Date